

Message Text

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ACTION MED-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-05 SS-20 SPC-03 MMS-03 PER-05 ABF-01

/041 W

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P R 211311Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5819

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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DEPT FOR DG/MED FROM DR. WILDE

ATHENS FOR DR. THARPE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AMED AFSP EG

SUBJECT: NURSE POSITION FOR CAIRO

1. REVIEW OF GENERAL MEDICAL SITUATION CAIRO INDICATES FURTHER DETERIORATION OF FACILITIES, STANDARDS AND AVAILABILITY OF RELIABLE LOCAL CARE SINCE LAST SURVEY VISIT BY RMO BEIRUT.

2. RAPIDLY GROWING OFFICIAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY PRESENTLY ALMOST COMPLETELY DEPENDENT ON ADMIRAL SPARKS WHO IS AN INTERNIST AND ACTS AS FAMILY PHYSICIAN TO OUR FLOCK. HE HAS ALSO BEEN GIVING ALL IMMUNIZATIONS AND HAS MAINTAINED HEALTH RECORDS AT OLD EMBASSY MEDICAL UNIT. DR. SPARKS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE CAIRO FOR NEW ASSIGNMENT SOON AND WILL BE REPLACED BY RESEARCH EPIDEMIOLOGIST AS CO AT NAMRU-3, WHO IS EXPECTED TO DO MUCH MORE TRAVEL. THIS MAY WELL RESULT IN LESS MEDICAL SUPPORT TO EMBASSY COMMUNITY.

3. ANGLO-AMERICAN HOSPITAL PROBABLY STILL BEST AVAILABLE FACILITY IN CAIRO. PHYSICAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT COMPARABLE

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TO LEBANESE HOSPITAL AT JIDDA, BUT JUDGMENT OF STAFF IS

NOT. I FEEL THAT SENIOR MEN MORE LIKELY TO HAVE CLINICAL DECISIONS AFFECTED BY PRIDE. THIS LIKELY TO RESULT IN PROCRASTINATION AND TACKLING OF PROBLEMS PARTICULARLY SURGICAL ONES WHICH SHOULD BE EVACUATED.

4. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EMBASSY NURSE POSITION IS NOW ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL. NURSE SHOULD BE MATURE, TACTFUL, AND HAVE ENOUGH FACE TO RELATE WITH LOCAL DOCTORS, MONITOR THEIR WORK AND CREATE CONFIDENCE AND FEELING OF SECURITY AMONG OUR FAMILIES. SHE MUST ALSO HAVE ORGANIZATIONAL ABILITIES TO SET UP HEALTH UNIT AND EVACUATION CHANNELS. DOUBT THAT AVERAGE CONTRACT NURSE SUITABLE FOR POSITION WITH THESE REQUIREMENTS AND STRONGLY RECOMMEND REESTABLISHMENT OF FSN POSITION IN CAIRO.
EILTS

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